It has been the continuous endeavour of the Government to expand trade relations with China and Japan. The areas in which India's trade relations have been strengthened with these countries include iron ore, electrical goods, cashew, organic, inorganic chemicals, primary and semi finished iron and steel, processed minerals, manufacture of metals, etc. The new items identified for expansion of trade include shrimps and prawns, cuttle fish, oil cakes, granite, insecticides, meat of bovine animals, coffee, black tea, sesame seed, etc. In the recent past a Record Note of Discussions was signed with the Chinese delegation which visited India in connection with the conclusion of SPS Protocol.

Both U.K. and Germany are important members of European Union. India and the European Union are engaged in a continuous dialogue at different levels for addressing the various bilateral trade issues. Trade and business representatives of both sides are also in touch with each other to facilitate expansion of bilateral trade and investment between India and EU countries. Three India-EU Business Summits have been held so far for enhancement of bilateral trade and investment relations. A joint sectoral study by trade/industry representatives of both sides has been undertaken to address the issues and concerns in priority sectors. The areas covered by the study are food processing, mechanical engineering, IT and telecom and financial services, textiles, power/energy and biotechnology.

Improvement of infrastructure in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh

470. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have released funds for improvement in the infrastructure of industrial areas in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the details of the funds released during the last three years;

(c) the details of the projects for which these funds were earmarked including the funds released for acquisition of land, construction of roads etc.;

(d) whether some industrial towns were earmarked for the purpose; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether utilization certificates were received from the States; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) During the last three years *viz.* 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 Central Government had, under Growth Centre Scheme, released to Government of Madhya Pradesh Central assistance of Rs.125 lakh for Borai Growth Centre (now in Chhattisgarh) in March, 2000 and Rs. 100 lakh for Satlapur Growth Centre in Madhya Pradesh in December, 2000 for creation of infrastructue facilities like power, water, telecommunication, banking, etc., in these two Growth Centres for attracting industries.

(d) Utilization certificates have not been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

Export of foodgrains

471. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foodgrains exported during the years 2000, 2001 and 2002;

(b) whether export of rice has increased; and

(c) the stock position of wheat and rice at present in the Central Pool?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) The total quantity and value of foodgrains (rice and wheat) exported during the last 3 years is as under:—

Qty: in lakh MT
Value: Rs. crores

Year	Basmati Rice		Non-Basmati Rice		Wheat	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1999-2000	6.38	1738.34	12.58	1345.58	-	-
2000-01	8.49	2154.94	6.82	777.26	8.13	415.09
2001-02(P)	6.66	1839.08	15.32	1324.36	26.49	1330.21
2002-03 (April-July, 2002)	2.23	597.05	12.08	858.72	11.83	556.42

(Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta)